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5-5214 1 May 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: Names for CIA Medals

REFERENCE: Memo for DCI fr Chairman, CIA Honor Awards Board,
subj as above, dtd 21 April 54

1. I am not sufficiently familiar with the background studies on this subject to know whether it is the desire of the Director to eliminate reference to the Central Intelligence Agency from titles for medals. I do note, however, that the proposal as stated is to find appropriate names for "Agency decorations". This would indicate our intent to establish a series of what would be, in fact, medals awarded by or in the name of this Agency to Agency personnel or other personnel whose performance of a service or services for this Agency is such as to warrant the award of a special decoration.

2. The present recommendation of the CIA Honor Awards Board lists recommended names for medals which are almost exactly similar to names of certain medals awarded by the military services. Such names are certainly appropriate and carry with them the connotation of tradition behind the similar medals awarded by the military services for distinguished and outstanding service, either of a hazardous or non-hazardous nature. From this point of view I can recommend without reservation the adoption of the present recommendations of the CIA Honor Awards Board.

3. I wish to suggest, however, that if the medals under consideration are to be strictly CIA medals awarded only for services to this Agency, it would be more appropriate to have these medals specifically designated as "Central Intelligence awards". In such case I would recommend the adoption of Alternate "B" recommended by the CIA Honor Awards Board, with the addition of "Central Intelligence" to the fourth recommended medal.

S/ STAT
Chief of Administration, DD/P

1 Encl. (see ref)

Orig, 1 - DD/P